

2021 Al and Carolyn Schiller Distinguished Service Award

The ACVS Board of Regents has selected Cheryl S. Hedlund, DVM, MS, Diplomate, ACVS, as a recipient of the Al and Carolyn Schiller Distinguished Service Award for exceptional contribution to ACVS.

Dr. Hedlund has demonstrated a remarkable, ongoing commitment to ACVS. Shortly after becoming board-certified in 1984, Dr. Hedlund served on the Editorial Review Board for *Veterinary Surgery*. For many years she shared her knowledge and experience as a speaker and seminar chair at ACVS's Veterinary Symposia and Surgery Summits and chair of numerous ACVS committees, including Resident Credentialing, Nominating, Fellowship, and Dual Certification Advisory Group.



**Cheryl S. Hedlund, DVM, MS
Diplomate, ACVS**

Dr. Hedlund was elected to the Board of Regents and went on to serve as president-elect, president, and chair. As the Board of Regents liaison to the Residency Training Working Group, she worked with a team of Diplomates that reviewed ACVS's residency training programs and made recommendations that required major changes in program registration and minimum standards to ensure programmatic consistency across the institutions that train surgery residents. Serving as chair of the Ad Hoc Residency Requirements Implementation Committee, she was charged with organizing and implementing these changes. The creation of the Residency Program Compliance Committee, where Dr. Hedlund served as the director, is undoubtedly one of her most significant contributions to ACVS. It paved the way for excellence in the residency training programs within the College. While serving a concurrent term as chair of the Fellowship Committee, Dr. Hedlund created the administrative system to establish and oversee ACVS Fellowship Programs.

Reflecting the impact she made on many residents, Dr. Hedlund was recognized as an Honored Mentor (ACVS Foundation) in 2018. As an experienced surgeon and teacher, she demonstrated her commitment to sharing her knowledge and impressing upon residents and colleagues the importance of providing a high standard of care and pursuing surgical education. Dr. Hedlund's many significant contributions to the College have had a lasting impact that will benefit the College and its members for years to come.

"Dr. Hedlund believes that getting involved and serving within ACVS is critical to advance and achieve the common goal of assuring excellence in surgery. The future of the Program Compliance Committee and the College has benefited greatly from Dr. Hedlund's service," noted a colleague.

Past recipients of the ACVS Al and Carolyn Schiller Distinguished Service Award:

1992: William J. Donawick, DVM, DACVS
1994: Ghery D. Pettit, DVM, DACVS
1997: John "Jack" F. Fessler, DVM, MS, DACVS
2009: Alan J. Lipowitz, DVM, MS, DACVS
2011: Robert A. Taylor, DVM, MS, MS, DACVS
2016: Nathaniel A. White II, DVM, MS, DACVS

The Al and Carolyn Schiller Distinguished Service Award allows recognition of anyone who has demonstrated unusual and meritorious service to the ACVS. Conferring this service award recognizes and honors recipients for outstanding contributions related directly or peripherally to the functions of the ACVS.